

Amendments to the Claims**Claims 1-15 (canceled)**

Claim 16 (withdrawn): A method for use in establishing a group call, comprising:
based on a history of group calls between two points in a mobile communications network, determining whether to establish a multicast session between the two points.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The method of claim 16, further comprising:
based on a history of group calls between two points in a mobile communications network, predicting a future demand for group calls between the two points.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The method of claim 16, further comprising:
based on a history of group calls between two points in a mobile communications network, determining a topology of multicast sessions to use in a future group call in the mobile communications network.

Claims 19-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): A method for use in establishing a group call, comprising:
in a first proxy switch, detecting a group call request from a first mobile station;
informing a second proxy switch of the group call request;
in the second proxy switch, retrieving information from a list of members of a group call group; and
based on the retrieved information, establishing a group call between first and second mobile stations (MS) via the first and second proxy switches,
wherein
The method of claim 14 wherein the first and second mobile stations are serviced by the first proxy switch and wherein establishing a group call between

~~the first and second mobile stations via the first and second proxy switches comprises:~~

by the first proxy switch,

when a first mobile gateway connection to the first proxy switch for the first mobile station has been created, acquiring a first channel for the first mobile station;

paging the second mobile station upon receiving an instruction from the second proxy switch;

informing the second proxy switch when the second mobile station is found;

when a second mobile gateway connection to the first proxy switch for the second mobile station has been created, acquiring a second channel for the second mobile station; and

informing the second proxy switch when the second mobile station is on channel.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A method for use in establishing a group call, comprising:

in a first proxy switch, detecting a group call request from a first mobile station;

informing a second proxy switch of the group call request;

in the second proxy switch, retrieving information from a list of members of a group call group; and

based on the retrieved information, establishing a group call between first and second mobile stations (MS) via the first and second proxy switches, wherein

~~The method of claim 14 wherein the first and second mobile stations are serviced by the first proxy switch and wherein establishing a group call between the first and second mobile stations via the first and second proxy switches comprises:~~

by the second proxy switch,

creating a first mobile-gateway connection to the first proxy switch for the first mobile station;

instructing the first proxy switch to page the second mobile station;

when informed that the second mobile station has been found, creating a second mobile-gateway connection to the first proxy switch for the second mobile station;

when informed that the second mobile station is on channel, instructing the first proxy switch to inform the first mobile station that a connection has been established; and

playing a tone to the first mobile station through the first mobile-gateway connection.

Claim 23 (cancelled):

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method for use in establishing a group call, comprising:

in a first proxy switch of a plurality of proxy switches, detecting a group call request from a first mobile station, wherein the first mobile station is serviced by the first proxy switch;

informing a second proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches of the group call request;

in the second proxy switch, retrieving information from a list of members of a group call group; and

based on the retrieved information, establishing a group call between first and second mobile stations via the plurality of proxy switches, wherein the second mobile station is serviced by a third proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches; and wherein

The method of claim 23 wherein the first mobile station is serviced by the first proxy switch, the second mobile station is serviced by a third proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches and wherein establishing a group call between the first and second mobile stations via the plurality of proxy switches comprises:

when a first ~~mobile gateway~~ connection to the first proxy switch for the first mobile station has been created, acquiring a first channel for the first mobile station by the first proxy switch;

by the third proxy switch, paging the second mobile station upon receiving an instruction from the second proxy switch ;

by the third proxy switch, informing the second proxy switch when the second mobile station is found;

by the third proxy switch, acquiring a second channel for the second mobile station when a second ~~mobile gateway~~ connection to the third proxy switch for the second mobile station has been created; and

informing the second proxy switch when the second mobile station is on channel.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A method for use in establishing a group call, comprising:

in a first proxy switch of a plurality of proxy switches, detecting a group call request from a first mobile station, wherein the first mobile station is serviced by the first proxy switch;

informing a second proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches of the group call request;

in the second proxy switch, retrieving information from a list of members of a group call group; and

based on the retrieved information, establishing a group call between first and second mobile stations via the plurality of proxy switches, wherein the second mobile station is serviced by a third proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches; and wherein

The method of claim 23 wherein the first mobile station is serviced by the first proxy switch, the second mobile station is serviced by a third proxy switch of the plurality of proxy switches and wherein establishing a group call between the first and second mobile stations via the plurality of proxy switches comprises:

by the second proxy switch,

creating a first mobile gateway connection to the first proxy switch for the first mobile station;

instructing the third proxy switch to page the second mobile station;

when informed that the second mobile station has been found, creating a second mobile gateway connection to the third proxy switch for the second mobile station;

when informed that the second mobile station is on channel, instructing the first proxy switch to inform the first mobile station that a connection has been established; and

playing a tone to the first mobile station through the first mobile gateway connection.

Claim 26 (cancelled)